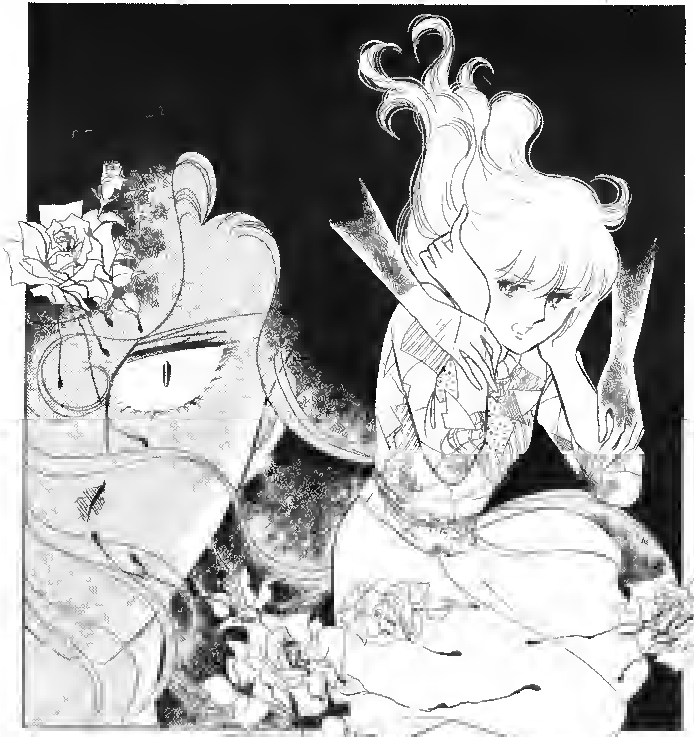


Chie Shinohara

SOMEONE IN THE DARK

read left to right

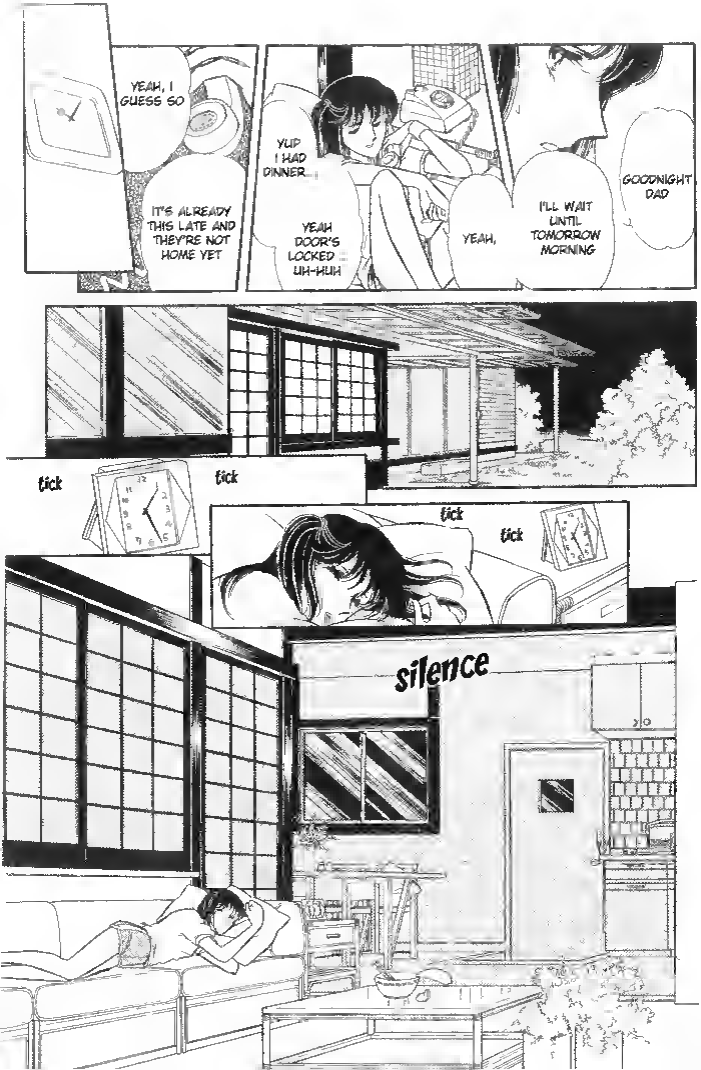
SUMMER...
IT WAS MY LAST SUMMER BREAK AS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
IT WAS AN UNFORGETTABLE MOMENT
Ding Dong
UFF, TOKYO IS JUST TOO HOT!
I'D RATHER GO BACK TO SHISHU
YEAH RIGHT
UFF!
ANYWAY, WE'VE JUST COMPLETED OUR MOST INTENSIVE TRAINING. DO YOU WANT TO GO GET SOMETHING TO DRINK, MASAMI?
YOSHITAKA
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
SORRY, I CAN'T MY MOM SAID SHE'LL COOK DINNER FOR ME TONIGHT
THANKS FOR THE HARD WORK, EVERYONE! TAKE CARE!

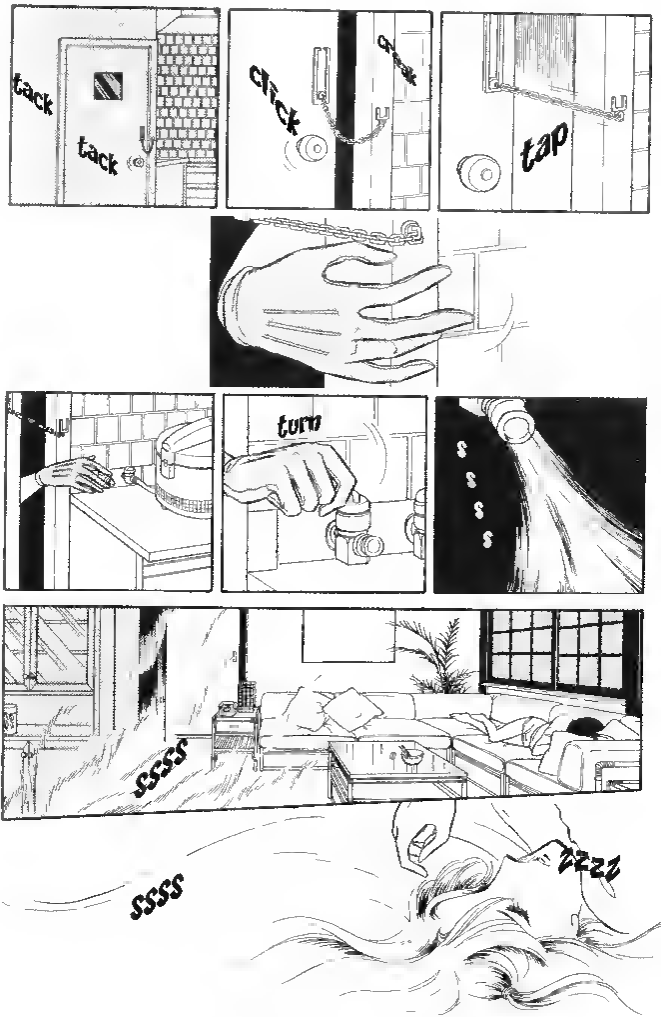
-=SCANNER/TRANSLATOR: LUCHS=-
-=EDITOR: ANDREA=-
HTTP://MANGASYNC.ORG

HAHA! YOSHITAKA, YOU GOT REJECTED AGAIN BY MASAMI, EH?!
HaHaHa!
SHUT UP!
EVERYONE, GO HOME!
HEY, FOR YOUR INFORMATION, YOSHITAKA IS MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND OKAY?!
SEE YA!
THAT TIME DAD WAS ON A BUSINESS TRIP IN KANSAI...
I JUST CAME BACK FROM A WEEK OF INTENSIVE TENNIS TRAINING
click
click
click
...
?
EH? WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
I DON'T RECOGNIZE THEIR FACES

AH
WE WERE TRYING TO SELL SOME ITEMS BUT IT SEEMS THERE'S NOBODY HOME
WE'LL COME BACK LATER
creak
?
MOM'S NOT HOME?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE... WHAT ABOUT MY DINNER?
knock knock
MOM ?
AH, THEY WERE RIGHT... THE DOOR'S LOCKED
click
I'M HOME!
IKUO, ARE YOU HOME?
silence
HM
IF I HAD KNOWN
I WOULD'VE STAYED WITH YOSHITAKA!

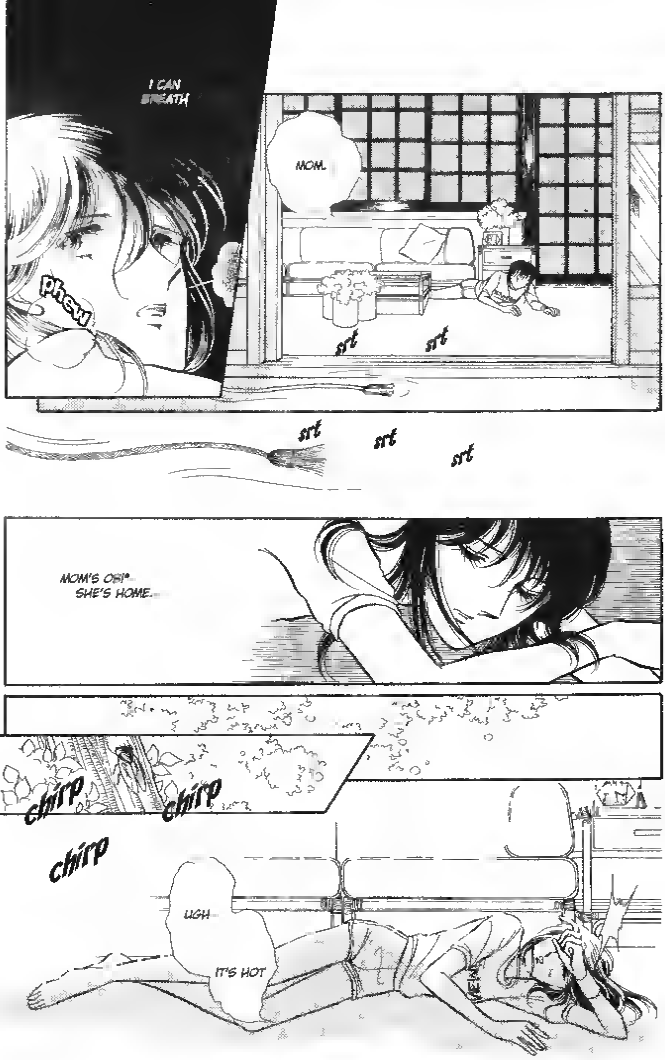
IS MOM IN HER ROOM?
creak
HER KIMONO
SO THAT MEANS SHE'S HOME... OH WELL, SHE'S PROBABLY AT THE NEIGHBOR'S
THIS IS NUSUAL
MOM NEVER LEAVES THINGS LIKE THIS
STRANGE
?


YEAH, I GUESS SO
IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE AND THEY'RE NOT HOME YET
YUP I HAD DINNER
YEAH DOOR'S LOCKED UH-HUH
YEAH,
I'LL WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING
GOODNIGHT DAD
tick
tick
tick
tick
silence


tack
tack
click
click
tap
turn
ssssss
ssssss
zzzz

SSSS
cough
cough
cough
UGH, I CAN'T BREATH
SSSS
cough
cough
THE GAS HAS FILLED THE ENTIRE ROOM... I MUST CLOSE THE VALVE
THE VALVE.
cough
cough
GAS...!
AAH !
ZE
wobble
SSSS
UUH...
cough
cough
cough

ssssss
ssssss
turn
THE GAS...
IT STOPPED...?
rustle
!!
MOM'S RING...



*OBI: SASH WORN AS A BELT WITH KIMONO

!!

AH I SLEPT ON THE FLOOR ALL NIGHT?!
UGH, IT'S GONNA BE ANOTHER HOT DAY!

WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT? WAS IT A DREAM? OR..
MY HEAD HURTS
scratch
YOU'RE AWAKE MASAMI?
DO YOU WANT TO EAT?

MOM!
IKUO!

MOM!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? I WAS WORRIED!
WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT?
I'M SORRY
MASAMI
MOM?
I FEEL STRANGE
tick
NEVERMIND
I'M JUST GLAD THAT YOU MADE IT HOME SAFELY
tick
tick
tick
OH GOSH!
I MUST GO NOW! WE'LL TALK AGAIN LATER WHEN I GET BACK
MASAMI!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
rush
TO SCHOOL, OF COURSE!
rush
TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? I MUST PRACTICE TENNIS DURING SUMMER BREAK

NO! YOU CAN'T LEAVE!
NEMUIZE!
WHY...?
I SAID YOU CAN'T LEAVE!
BUT WHY, MOM? YOU'RE ACTING SO WEIRD...
chirp
chirp
MASAMI, PLEASE STAY HOME
I BEG YOU
MOM...?
NEMUIZE

rrrr
tick
tick
silence
EVERY ONE'S SO QUIET
WHAT REALLY HAPPENED THAT DAY?
ARE THEY HIDING SOMETHING?
HM... COULD IT BE RELATED TO THOSE TWO GUYS?

silence
munch
munch
I CAN'T STAND THIS SILENCE
THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD... I GOTTA GO BUY SOME SPORTSWEAR NOW, LATER!
GIVE ME ONE GOOD REASON WHY I CAN'T GO..
MASAMI...!
OH PLEASE, MOM!
I REALLY NEED TO GO THIS TIME! I GOTTA GET A NEW RACKET TOO
!

ALSO...
ALRIGHT, BUT DON'T STAY OUT TOO LATE
pff
LET IKUO GO WITH YOU, OKAY
!?
chirp chirp
chirp chirp
THIS IS REALLY WEIRD... THEY MUST BE HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME

SIS LET'S TAKE THIS WAY
WHY? THAT WAY IS FURTHER
THERE ARE MORE PEOPLE
BUT WE ALWAYS TAKE THE SHORTCUT THROUGH THE PARK
HUH?
chirp chirp
?
truth
New Fashion
MISS!

YOU SHOULDN'T SKIP PRACTICE!
CALIFORNIA SUNSET
YOSHI-TAKA!
AND WHY ARE YOU HERE?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOME-THING..?
MASAMI?
W...WHY?
AH, WELL...
DON'T WORRY I'M OKAY... THANKS
THIS IS MY PRO-BLEM
REALLY
I'LL WALK YOU HOME OKAY?
UHM, BUT...
C'MON
...ONCE IN A WHILE IS OKAY RIGHT?

Morikawa
YOSHITAKA LIKES YOU, SIS...
BUT SOMETIMES YOU'RE TOO INDEPENDENT AND THICK-HEADED
tug tug
MM?
SIS YOU SHOULD BE NICER TO HIM
WHAT?
IF YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND LIKE HIM, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE HAPPIER
WHY YOU...
OUCH! BUT MOM SAID THE SAME THING!
OUCH!
bawps
MOM... SHE SAID THAT?
WE'RE HOME!
NONSENSE! HOW COULD THEY TALK ABOUT SOMETHING THIS EMBARRASSING?
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO, HE'S ALWAYS WITH HER
huh
IT'S OK. WE'LL DO IT TONIGHT

krrt
krrt
krrt
UGH
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT..
WHAT IS IT..
krrt
krrt
krrt
!!
FROM THE KITCHEN
krrt
krrt
krrt
krrt
krrt
krrt
SOMEONE'S TRYING TO CUT THE CHAIN!
krrt
krrt
krrt
krrt
krrt
!!
AH!
WHO'S THERE..?!

WHO'S THERE?
slam
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
click
click
click
click
Pull
!!
HE'S...
HE'S GOT THE KEY?!
WHAT'S THIS ?! THIEVES?!
MOM!
TAP
TAP
KRRT
MOM, WAKE UP!
MOM...
!!
empty

!?
IS SHE IN IKUO'S ROOM?
TAP TAP
IKU...
IKUO!
BRAK
MOM!
WHAT
WHERE DID THEY GO ?
I BETTER CALL THE COPS!
tap tap
THE PHONE.
IT'S DEAD!!

KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
AM I ALONE IN THE HOUSE ..?!
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
badum
EH? I HEARD SOMETHING

SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS!
KIKI
KIKI
KIKI
TAP
TAP
TAP
WHO?
MOM?!
IT'S COMING CLOSER...
TAP
TAP
Shaa..
EH?
creak

MOM...!?
BUT
I DIDN'T SEE HER LEGS THROUGH THE GLASS WINDOW...
tap
DON'T WORRY, MASAMI
I WON'T LET THEM GET IN THE HOUSE
creak
KRT
!!
HUH ?
GULP
WHAT?

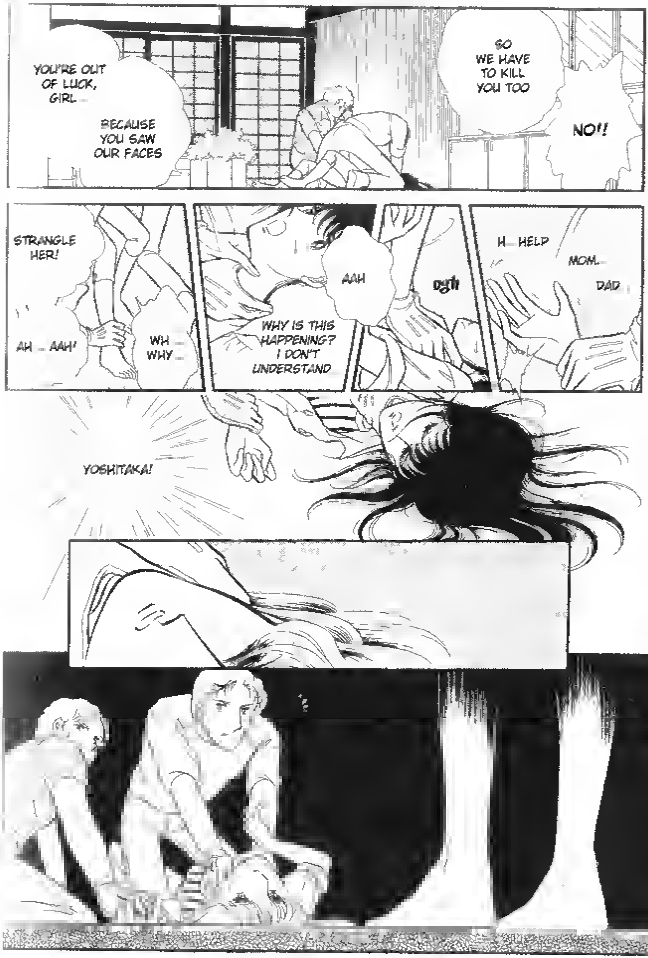
WAAAAA!
AAAAAHH!
he he he
MOM?
MASAMI
click
badum
EVERYTHING'S FINE NOW
smile

!?
YAWN... WHAT'S WITH THE NOISE...?
!!
IKUO?
WHERE WERE YOU?
WHERE..?
I WAS IN MY ROOM OF COURSE!
MASAMI, ARE YOU OKAY?
MASAMI
NO..
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT
MASAMI!
SIS!
SOMETHING IS DIFFERENT!
MASAMI! DON'T LEAVE THE HOUSE!
Slam

tap
STRANGE...
tap
ring ring
ring ring
ring ring
AH!
HELLO?
SORRY THIS IS MASAMI, MAY I PLEASE SPEAK WITH YOSHITAKA?
WHO'S CALLING SO LATE
AH YOSHITAKA
IT'S MASAMI... SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED...
ARE YOU STILL HALF ASLEEP? THIS AFTERNOON, YOU BUMPED INTO IKUO AND ME!
YOSHITAKA!
WHEN YOU SAW IKUO EARLIER, DID YOU FEEL ANYTHING?
IKUO?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AT ALL LATELY

YAWN
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S HALF ASLEEP...
YOU WERE ALONE!
!
MASAMI
MASA-MI
I'M CERTAIN, I WAS WITH IKUO THIS AFTERNOON...
BUT YOSHITAKA DIDN'T SEE HIM.
GRAB
UUM ! UFF!!
!!

THOSE TWO FROM YESTERDAY! BUT WHY?
DON'T DO IT HERE. IT'S TOO RISKY
YOU'RE RIGHT. WE BETTER DO IT IN HER HOUSE
!?
MASAMI!
MASAMI? WHAT'S WRONG?
creak
LILIGH—
LET ME GO! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

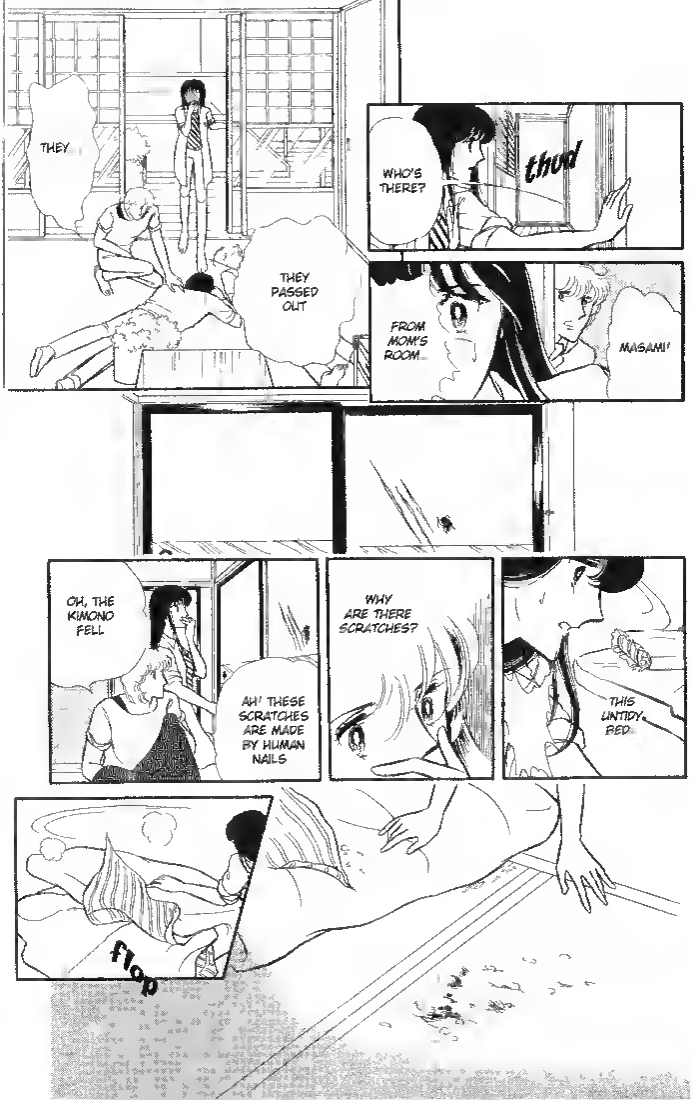

YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK, GIRL
BECAUSE YOU SAW OUR FACES
SO WE HAVE TO KILL YOU TOO
NO!!
STRANGLE HER!
AH ... AAH!
WH ... WHY ...
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING? I DON'T UNDERSTAND
AAH
ugh
H... HELP
MOM...
DAD
YOSHITAKA!

KU..O?
HNH!
T...THIS KID? IMPOSSIBLE!
SO THE ONE EARLIER WASN'T AN ILLUSION?!
shaa..
WAAAAA!
THUD
GET AWAY FROM ME!
STOP!

slide

shake
u uh?
MOM'S OUT?
KRRK
AALUGHH
KRRK
heh heh
knock knock knock
knock knock knock
MASAMI'
MASAMI'
UGH...
rift
hah?
MASAMI, ARE YOU IN THERE?
MASAMI'
YO-SHI-TAKA!
knock knock
MASAMI' OPEN THE DOOR!

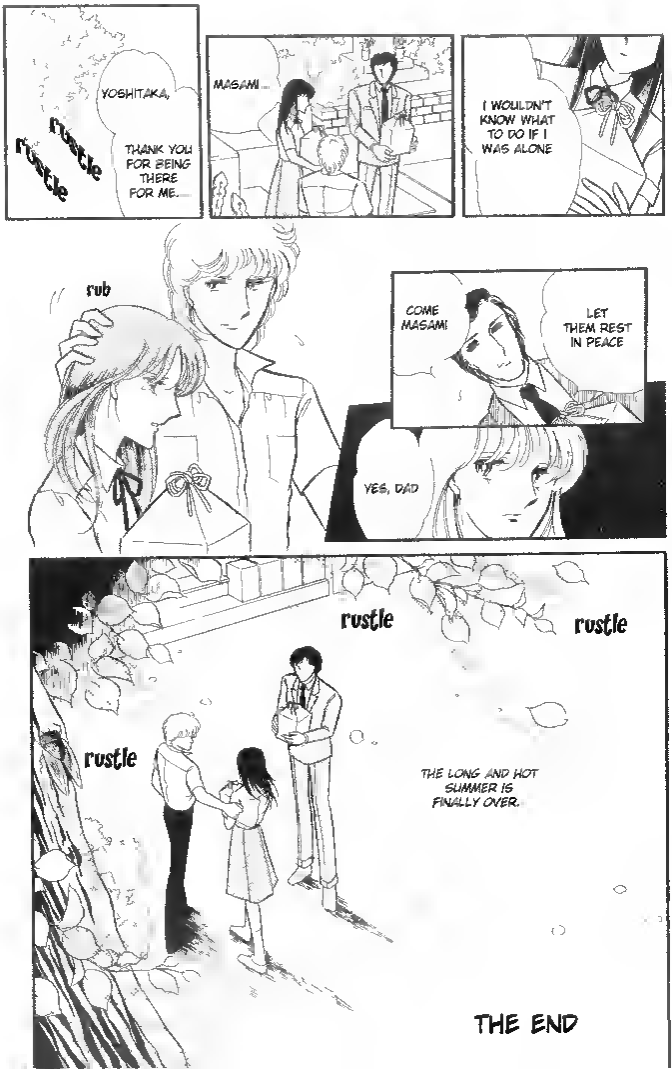
click click
creak
MASAMI!
ON THE PHONE YOU WERE...
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
!?
YOSHITAKA!
WHAT'S WITH YOU...?
TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED...?
AAAAH!


THEY...
THEY PASSED OUT
WHO'S THERE?
thud
FROM MOM'S ROOM...
MASAMI!
OH, THE KIMONO FELL
AH! THESE SCRATCHES ARE MADE BY HUMAN NAILS
WHY ARE THERE SCRATCHES?
THIS UNTIDY BED...
flop

THERE'S DIRT ON THE FLOOR.
MASAMI?
EH?
YOSHITAKA, CAN YOU LIFT THIS BED PLEASE
PLEASE LIFT THIS UP
push
INSIDE, WE FOUND
THE DEAD BODIES OF MY MOM AND MY LITTLE BROTHER, THEIR NECKS STRANGLED WITH AN OBI
THEY WERE HALF BURIED UNDERGROUND
NOOOOO!
AAAAAAAH!

MOM...
THAT DAY, WHEN I CAME BACK FROM THE INTENSIVE TRAINING...
THE TWO MEN HAD KILLED MY MOM AND MY LITTLE BROTHER WHO JUST GOT OUT OF THE BANK SIMPLY FOR MONEY
WHEN I SAW THEM AT THE FRONT DOOR, THEY HAD JUST FINISHED COVERING UP THE CORPSES

MASAMI
I HOPE YOU WILL FIND HAPPINESS SOON, MASAMI
SIS
MOM. MOM
REST IN PEACE MOM. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
MOM... IKUO...


rustle
rustle
YOSHITAKA,
THANK YOU FOR BEING THERE FOR ME.
MASAMI...
I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO IF I WAS ALONE
rub
COME MASAMI
LET THEM REST IN PEACE
YES, DAD
rustle
rustle
rustle
THE LONG AND HOT SUMMER IS FINALLY OVER.
THE END